THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) During the period 1st July, 2002 to 30th June, 2003, there were two industry level strikes on 2.5.2003 and 21.5.2003 and three bank level strikes on 21.2.2003, 17.3.2003 and 28.3.2003.

(b) Strikes in banking industry to cause inconvenience to the public and financial loss to trade and industry as the business cannot be transacted and clearing houses do not function on the day of strike. However, it is not possible to quantify the loss on this account.

(c) Public Sector Banks and Private Sector Banks differ in various respects such as shareholding, management etc. Therefore, it may not be appropriate to compare them with each other.

Delay in sanctioning loans

†207. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is delay in getting loans from banks and financial institutions for the projects of companies;

(b) what is the number of complaints received by Government in this regard during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure that loans are provided to the companies in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Government does receive complaints from borrowers on different aspects of banking, including delay in disbursement of loans. These complaints are taken up with concerned banks and financial institutions for remedial action and redressed. No separate figures are being maintained about complaints relating to delay in getting loans.

(c) Reserve Bank of India has issued guidelines relating to Fair Practice Code for lenders to all scheduled commercial banks on

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

5th May, 2003, in terms of which banks are required to put in place this Code for Lenders as early as possible, but not later than by 1st August, 2003. The guidelines *inter-alia* stipulated that lenders should ensure timely disbursement of loans sanctioned in conformity with the terms and conditions governing such sanctions.

Crisil Estimates on NPAs of Banks

208. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rating agencies CRISIL and FITCH have estimated independently that the Non-Performing Assets of public sector banks are actually double the estimates worked out by Indian Bank's association;

(b) whether according to CRISIL/FITCH estimates, the combined NPAs of public sector banks have now crossed Rs.1,300,000 crores mark; and

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India has any mechanism in place to assess the extent of NPAs of Banks independently and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) CRISIL have estimated that the gross NPAs of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) as on 31st March, 2002 were Rs. 1,30, 000/- crores. However, as per RBI, the gross Non Performing Assets (NPAs) of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) on the same date were Rs. 70903.63 crores (10.41% of gross advances). FITCH ratings have estimated that the net NPAs of SCBs would go up from 5.5% of net advances as on 31st March, 2002 to 11.5% of net advances, if 90 day norm is adopted instead of 180 day norm being used now. However, the estimates made by the rating agencies to not reflect the factual position, as these agencies have done the estimation of NPAs on the basis of a sample and extra polating the results to the entire system. CRISIL has applied a multiple to the reported gross NPAs in the Priority Sector "based on its understanding of the portfolio's profile" to arrive at the estimate of gross NPAs in the Priority Sector. For non Priority Sector's loans CRISIL has classified